Today's News - May 26, 2005

A new competition launched for self-sufficient housing. — Design trends for a graying population. — Another look at a (possibly?) feasible vision for Palestine. — Ouroussoff takes on the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission: is it preserving or embalming? — Another step closer to the transformation of 2 Columbus Circle (or, for some, another nail in the coffin). — Long Island Modernist treasure still struggling for survival. — WTC memorial reworked, for better or worse. — Cloud, mushroom, and "spikey" pods, a helix-shaped staircase - Alsop's Queen Mary Medical School "breaks new architectural ground." — Art Gallery of Hamilton revamp rights 1970s blight. — Las Vegas "urban metropolis" gets Gensler. — A special image-filled NYT section devoted to the Chrysler Building (plan to spend some time here). — Weekend diversions: "10x10_2" is weighty tome; "In the Bubble: Designing in a Complex World" a good break from "fizzy world of high-style design"; "Los Angeles Plays Itself" worth the price of admission. — We couldn't resist...could this be the start of a trend? NYC passes "potty parity" bill (good news for the plumbing industry - and for womankind!).

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1st Advanced Architecture Contest: Open competition (professionals & students) for selfsufficient housing; cash prizes, free registration; deadline: September 20- Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia (Spain)

Homes that age gracefully: The challenge, architects say, is meeting the needs of a graying population... The realities of growing elderly surfaced repeatedly at the AIA national convention -- Safdie Rabines Architects; David Salmela; Dulcie Horwitz; Stephen A. Kliment; Duo Dickinson; etc.- Los Angeles Times

American think-tank looks ahead to Palestine, 2015: This is a vision of the future Arab state as set out by a \$2m study by Rand Corporation. What's more, the Palestinians love it — Suisman Urban Design- Independent (UK)

[NYC Landmarks Preservation] Commission Preserves the Past at the Cost of the Future: ...stubbornness proves that it is unable to distinguish between preserving the city's architectural legacy and embalming it. By Nicolai Ouroussoff — Edward Durell Stone; Renzo Piano- New York Times

Museum of Arts and Design to Buy Contested Site: ...signed a contract to buy 2 Columbus Circle...enables the museum to proceed with the reconstruction of its future home... -- Edward Durell Stone (1965); Allied Works Architecture/Handel Architects- New York Times

Beach House Must Be Moved: a double-diamond building in a rough spot as preservationists race the clock to prevent the demolition of one of Long Island's beloved landmarks. — Andrew Michael Geller (1959) [image]- Preservation magazine

WTC design by Michael Arad reworked: While the process may be showing signs of toomany-cooks syndrome, some of those involved say the changes are being made for the better. — Peter Walker & Partners; Davis Brody Bond; Handel Architects- The Dartmouth

Stellar center for cellular science: A spectacular medical center that breaks new architectural ground for scientific research facilities has been unveiled in east London. — Will Alsop [slide show]- CNN

Art Gallery of Hamilton revamp rights 1970s blight: an unpleasant and placeless Brutalist box has been remade as a genuinely attractive cultural institution and, more importantly, a civic feature. By Christopher Hume — Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg-Toronto Star

Gensler named executive architect managing MGM Mirage CityCenter Project...\$4.7 billion Las Vegas urban metropolis -- Ehrenkrantz, Eckstut and Kuhn Architects (master plan)- Hotel Interactive

The Chrysler Building at 75: A special section celebrating...an icon of the Manhattan skyline. -- William Van Alen [images/slide shows]- New York Times

Book Review: When you care enough to build your very best: With a whomp that registered on the Richter scale, "10x10_2" landed on my desk...What dispelled my initial cynicism is a section...where each critic spells out 10 sources of inspiration. By John King -- Saucier + Perrotte; Daniel Bonilla; Herzog & de Meuron; Hadid; etc.- San Francisco Chronicle

In the Bubble: What to do when the fizzy world of high-style design starts to seem too, too much? ...push aside that colorful pile of photo-packed publications and pick up "In the Bubble: Designing in a Complex World" by John Thackara. By Nancy Levinson-Arts.lournal

Movie Review: "Los Angeles Plays Itself" is an intellectually lively and thoroughly engrossing defence of the city that may be the world's most photographed and least photogenic...Viewers in oft-disguised Toronto will find Thom Andersen's investigations particularly relevant.- Eye Weekly (Toronto)

It's a go for 'potty parity': New buildings and buildings undergoing major renovations will be required to install two toilets for women for every one provided to men.- NY Daily News

Exhibition Review: "The 60s: Montréal Thinks Big": The 1960s: just long enough ago to be familiar, yet far enough in the past to look back at this time of radical urban redevelopment with some degree of objectivity. By Terri Whitehead [images]- ArchNewsNow

Build Business: Client Loyalty What You Don't Know Could Hurt Y	∕ou. By
Stephanie Craft, CPSM	_

Under construction: Kazuyo Sejima & Ryue Nishizawa (SANAA): The Zollverein School, Essen, Germany

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Yesterday's News

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